

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mark Bergner on 10/15/2009.

The application has been amended as follows:

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Claim 1 (previously presented): An on-line service provision method, wherein a service session supervision platform is placed between an access network and an input node of a service-hosting network, the method comprising the following steps in relation to at least one service:

- a priori defining, in the running of said service, at least one atomic section consisting of a determined sequence of events involved in message exchanges with a subscriber, and identifying a first event at the start of the atomic section and at least one second event at the end of the atomic section; and
- configuring the supervision platform so that said supervision platform detects the events identified in a session of said service in progress for a subscriber via the access network and flags a start of atomic section for said subscriber in response

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to the detection of the first event and an end of atomic section for said subscriber in response to the detection of a second event, wherein a communication interrupt request from a subscriber is processed by ascertaining whether an atomic section is in progress for said subscriber according to the atomic section beginnings and ends flagged by the supervision platform, in order to determine whether the communication must at least partly be interrupted immediately.

Claim 2 (original): The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein, in response to a communication interrupt request for a subscriber, the immediate interruption of the communication is prevented when said subscriber has an ongoing atomic section for at least one service.

Claim 3 (previously presented): The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein, in response to a communication interrupt request for a subscriber, the immediate interruption of the communication is prevented when said subscriber has an ongoing atomic section for at least one service started less than a predetermined time ago.

Claim 4 (previously presented): The method as claimed in claim 3, wherein said predetermined duration is specified to the supervision platform for each atomic section.

Claim 5 (previously presented): The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein a context handler is provided to communicate with different functional units including the supervision platform, to store information on service sessions in progress for subscribers via the access network, said information comprising an atomic section indicator kept up-to-date for each subscriber based on atomic section beginnings and ends flagged by the supervision platform.

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Claim 6 (previously presented): The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the access network comprises a cellular radio communication network.

Claim 7 (previously presented): The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the input node of the service-hosting network comprises an Internet portal.

Claim 8 (previously presented): An on-line service control system, comprising a service session supervision platform placed between an access network and an input node of a service-hosting network, and a context handler to communicate with different functional units including the supervision platform in order to store information on service sessions in progress for subscribers via the access network, wherein at least one atomic section consisting of a determined sequence of events which are involved in message exchanges with a subscriber is a priori defined in the running of at least one service by identifying a first event at the start of the atomic section and at least one second event at the end of the atomic section, the supervision platform - including means for detecting the events identified in a session of said service in progress for a subscriber via the access network and for flagging to the context handler a start of atomic section for said subscriber in response to the detection of the first event and an end of atomic section for said subscriber in response to the detection of a second event, the context handler including means of keeping an atomic section indicator stored for each subscriber up-to-date on the basis of atomic section beginnings and ends flagged by the supervision platform and of processing a communication interrupt request from a subscriber according to the atomic section indicator stored for said subscriber in order to determine whether the communication must at least partly be interrupted immediately.

Claims 9–14 (canceled).

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Claim 15 (currently amended): A computer-readable medium embodying instructions that cause a computer to perform a method for implementing a software agent for an on-line service developer, comprising instructions for performing the following operations on running the software agent in a computer machine communicating with a service session supervision platform placed between an access network and an input node of a service-hosting network, the method comprising:

- determining determination, in the running of a service, of at least one atomic section consisting of a determined sequence of events involved in message exchanges with a subscriber;
- identifying identification of a first event at the start of the atomic section and of at least one second event at the end of the atomic section; and
- configuring configuration of the supervision platform so that it detects the events identified in a session of said service in progress for a subscriber via the access network and flags a start of atomic section for said subscriber in response to the detection of the first event and an end of atomic section for said subscriber in response to the detection of a second event.

Claim 16 (currently amended): The computer-readable medium comprising instructions for the software agent as claimed in claim 15, wherein the supervision platform configuration operation performed on running the software agent includes a configuration of the supervision platform so that said supervision platform flags atomic section beginnings and ends to a context handler storing information on service sessions in progress for subscribers via the access network, including at least one atomic section indicator.

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Claim 17 (canceled).

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-8 and 15-16 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding independent claims 1, 8, and 15, Cameron et al. (WO 01/86881), Katz (US 7,222,113 B2) and Schneider (US 6,442,549 B1) teach an on-line service provision method, wherein a service session supervision platform is placed between an access network and an input node of a service-hosting network. The above prior art of record fail to disclose or render obvious that configuring the supervision platform so that said supervision platform detects the events identified in a session of said service in progress for a subscriber via the access network and flags a start of atomic section for said subscriber in response to the detection of the first event and an end of atomic section for said subscriber in response to the detection of a second event, wherein a communication interrupt request from a subscriber is processed by ascertaining whether an atomic section is in progress for said subscriber according to the atomic section beginnings and ends flagged by the supervision platform, in order to determine whether the communication must at least partly be interrupted immediately, as combined with other limitations in the claims.

Claims 2-7 depend on claim. Therefore, they are allowed.

Claim 16 depend on claim 15. Therefore, they are allowed.

3. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

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accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to DAVID Q. NGUYEN whose telephone number is (571)272-7844. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30AM-5:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lao LunYi can be reached on (571)272-7671. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/David Q Nguyen/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2617